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Subjects: Babij, Irena  
Sources: P.  
Date: 16 of June 1966

I

1. Subject, Ukrainian, aged 67, widow, Gr. Cath., arrived in Sydney, Australia on April 24, 1966 from Lviv, USSR. She came to stay with her daughter who is married to Roman Vesely and at the present time resides with them at 55uva Cres., Greenacre, NSW, Sydney, Australia.
2. Subject was married to Prof. Ivan Babij who in the ~~late~~ 1930's was shot by the OUN for collaboration with Polish authorities. Her son, Orest, born in 1923, was arrested for either activity in the OUN or for speculation in 1943 and was shot by the Germans. During the German occupation the Subject worked at the Dzyedyshtynsky Museum in Lviv. After WWII Subject was imprisoned for a period of six years. Upon her release she moved to Mykolayev but frequently visited Lviv.
3. Subject obtained her passport in Lviv ten days before her departure. She flew from Lviv to Moscow where she had to wait five days for a plane. Her flight was via "Air - India" through Bombay to Sydney. To obtain her passport the subject had to submit 22 photo graphs of her self and fill out numerous questionnaires about her family, living and deceased, at home and abroad.
4. The Subject was interviewed at her son-in-law's home on April 28, 1966 in the presence of her daughter and son-in-law. She appeared to be in very good spirits, especially as for her age, however, was not very talkative, fearing the safety of relatives left behind. Most of the information about the subject was obtained from her daughter or her son-in-law.

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SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3828  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2007

II

1. Off - limits area  
There is an off - limits area near Yaremche. Noone is allowed to go there. Subject did not have any details and immediately deviated from this topic.
2. Arrests  
Subject disclosed knowledge of the arrests of Svitlychny and Dziuba in Kiev and also claimed that rumor had it that many more were arrested and tried. The subject did not know the names. She also ~~said~~ that Dziuba wrote a 40 page protest with regards to the arrests and had submitted it to the authorities.

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Subject did not know much about similar arrests in Lviv but she did bring out the fact that Vera Svontaitka who at the present time was employed with the Museum in Lviv had been ~~also~~ <sup>was</sup> arrested. The Subject also disclosed that the prisons of Lviv on Kazymyrsky St. and Lonsky St., in her opinion, are full. When questioned about Symonenko, Mrs. Babij answered that she read his book "Vyno s Trojand" but his works were forbidden.

3. Party and Ukr. Patriotism

Party membership is not considered to be apriori derogatory in itself. Many people simply join the party because they must. It is the way a party member behaved that he is judged about by the population. An example is Kos Anatolsky, who although he is a party member considers himself to be a good Ukrainian and always talks quite freely in Ukrainian. The only "trouble" with him is that he is very much a ladies man. However, the populace looks upon him as apatriotic Ukrainian. The same is not true for others. The people are greatly angered at Iryna Vilde, the famous pre-war writer, who became such an ardent party member. Mychajlo Rudnytsky, another fervent party member, is also looked down upon, but even with greater scorn than Vilde. Stefanyk has also surprised the population for becoming such a servant of the enemy.

4. Resettlement

In the area of Lviv many of the people who were resettled to other parts of the Soviet Union often made good money and had no desire to return. Others who returned from resettlement went right back because there were jobs from where they came. In Lviv one may find many resettled Ukrainians from the east. These are often treated better than the rest of population. Frequently special vocational and other qualification courses are organized to enable them to obtain better jobs. They even so metimes arrive with false certificates of higher education and authorities connive at this.

5. Modernization

Lviv has undergone many changes. It has expanded in the area toward Stryj. Many new buildings have appeared of the standard form but not especially nice. These are located at the terminal end of Ivan Franko St. On the streets there are many buses, trollies, and streetcars to be seen. In the homes many of the people already have TV sets.

6. Krushchev

During Krushchev things eased off a bit. From the Subject's attitude it appeared that the people liked Krushchev. Now that he is gone the Subject believes things will get a little worse mainly from a political aspect. There is fear that the new leadership may tighten up the screw again.

7. Miscellaneous

Not too many Army servicemen are to be seen in Lviv. According to the Subject most roads in West Ukraine are asphalt covered and in good condition. Buss and air transportation is well organized and relatively cheap.

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